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SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE  
COMBINED DISTRICTS

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ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR  
1946

BY

CLEMENT DUNSCOMBE, M.B., B.CHR., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health*

Phipps & Co., Shoe Lane Press, Oxford



# ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1946

## SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS.

44 CASTLE STREET,  
OXFORD.

*To the Chairmen and Councillors of the Constituent Authorities.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the South Oxfordshire Combined Districts for 1946, which has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 13/47 issued by the Ministry of Health on 13th March, 1947. Reports are to be confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected public health during the year, especially outbreaks of infectious disease.

*Vital Statistics.*—The statistics for each district are shewn in the body of the Report.

Out of a total of 1,574 live and still births there has been only one maternal death from puerperal sepsis or other maternal causes. This gives a Maternal Mortality Rate of 0.6 per 1,000 as compared with 1.37 for England and Wales as a whole.

There were 41 deaths of infants in the Combined Districts which took place under the age of one year. This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of only 26.5 per 1000 as compared with 43 in England and Wales.

*Infectious Diseases.*—There have been no serious outbreaks of disease, although Whooping Cough has been somewhat more prevalent throughout the year. Only four children under 16 (not fully immunised) contracted diphtheria, the few remaining cases occurring either in adults or non-civilians.

*Diphtheria Immunisation.*—The scheme for the protection of children against Diphtheria has continued. Arrangements have been made for children attending schools in the districts to be immunised by the School Medical Officers, the District Councils accepting financial responsibility. In the case of children under five years the work is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres—where the County Council accepts financial cost—or else may be done by any general practitioner under the scheme suggested by the Ministry in Circular 2753. The co-operation of the doctors has ensured the good results obtained—as set out in this Report.

*Scabies*.—There has been much less Scabies throughout the area generally, and the arrangements made for Out-Patient treatment, and, when necessary (for complicated cases) for In-Patient treatment at the Cold Arbour or Slade Hospitals have worked satisfactorily during the year.

*Housing*.—As regards Housing, it has only been possible to deal with the most urgent matters, as arrears have accumulated during the war. A comprehensive survey of housing conditions is proceeding in order to get our records up to date.

*Water Supply*.—In the Rural Areas consideration has been given by the Councils to the question of the supply of wholesome piped water to those communities who can be connected up at a reasonable cost. The piped supplies in the Urban Districts are regularly examined by bacteriological methods and satisfactory results obtained (Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's Classification). If complaints are received or contamination suspected the Rural supplies are analysed and appropriate action taken if possible and instructions given as to the means of rendering the water reasonably safe.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Sanitary Inspectors of the various districts for their valuable co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

CLEMENT DUNSCOMBE,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

# BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT

## GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA, 1946

Area (Acres) ...	...	...	...	...	1,679
Estimate of Resident Population	...				3,547

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.		Bicester Urban Dist.	England & Wales
Live Births	103	63	40	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population mid-1946	29.0	19.1
Legitimate	97	60	37			
Illegitimate	6	3	3			
Stillbirths	3	1	2	Rate per 1,000 population	0.84	0.53 per 1,000 civ- ilian pop.
Deaths	48	23	25	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average popula- tion	13.5	11.5

The chief causes of death were :—  
 Heart Disease, 16; Cancer, 5; Intracranial vascular lesions, 3; Pneumonia, Bronchitis & other Respiratory Diseases, 5; Tuberculosis, 1.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's List) :—

Deaths					
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil	0.31
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	Nil			Nil	1.06
Total ...	...	Nil		Nil	1.37

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births (3 infant deaths in 1946)	29.1	43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	30.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	5
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	Nil    4.4 per 1,000 live births.

It will be noted that the general Birth Rate is higher, and the Infant Mortality Rate lower than for England and Wales as a whole.

# BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Public Health Staff

Consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor and superintends the Waterworks, Sewage Disposal Works, Markets, etc.

### Fever Hospital Accommodation

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health cases are admitted, when necessary, to the City of Oxford Infectious Diseases Hospital at The Slade, with whom the Urban District has an arrangement.

### Bacteriological Laboratory Work (including Water Examination)

This work is now carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford, under the supervision of Professor R. Knox.

### Ambulance Services

(1) For accident and non-infectious cases a motor ambulance has been provided for the Town and District.

(2) For infectious cases a motor ambulance is stationed at the Infectious Diseases Hospital and serves both the Urban District of Bicester and the Rural District of Ploughley; but cases are usually removed by The Slade ambulance.

### PREVALENCE OF, & CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1946

Diseases	No. of Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	...     3	...     2
Diphtheria ...	...     1	...     1
Erysipelas ...	...     1	—
Whooping Cough ...	Nil	—
Measles ...	Nil	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	1	1
Pneumonia ...	2	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	Nil	—
Dysentery ...	1	1

**Scarlet Fever.** Three cases occurred during the year. Two were sent to Hospital.

**Diphtheria.** Only one case was notified during the year, and it will be seen from the Table below that the majority of the children have been immunised against the disease. This child had not been immunised, but recovered in hospital.

**Measles.** No cases were notified during the year.

No deaths occurred during the year from Measles, Whooping Cough, or other Zymotic Disease.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children in the District who have been protected against Diphtheria is shown in the following Table :—

Estimated School Population	...	590
Number immunised	...	469
Percentage	...     ...	79.5
Estimated population under 5	...	330
Number immunised	...	243
Percentage	...     ...	73.6

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Six new cases were notified during the year: one adult male suffering from the pulmonary type of the disease, three women suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, and one woman and one child with tuberculous glands. There was one male death from tuberculosis of the respiratory system during the year.

# HENLEY-ON-THAMES MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

## GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA, 1946

Area (Acres) ...	...	...	...	...	1,382
Estimate of Resident Population	...				8,565

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.		Henley Borough	England & Wales
Live Births	139	74	65	Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population mid-1946	16.2	19.1
Legitimate	123	67	56			
Illegitimate	16	7	9			
Stillbirths	5	2	3	Rate per 1,000 population	0.58	0.53 per 1,000 civilian pop.
Deaths	104	48	56	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population	12.1	11.5

The chief causes of death were :—  
 Heart Disease, 22 ; Cancer, 20 ; Intracranial Vascular Lesions, 17 ; Tuberculosis, 5 ; Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases, 15.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

Deaths					
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil	0.31
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	Nil			Nil	1.06
Total	...	...	Nil	Nil	1.37

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births (1 infant death)	...	7.2	43
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	8.1	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	20	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	Nil	4.4 per 1,000 live births

It will be noted that both the Infant and Maternal Mortality figures compare very favourably with those of England and Wales as a whole.

# HENLEY-ON-THAMES MUNICIPAL BOROUGH

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Hospitals

(a) FEVER. Cases of infectious disease are admitted by arrangement to the "Smith" Isolation Hospital which is situated within the Borough.

(b) SMALLPOX. The Borough Council is one of the constituent authorities of the South Chilterns Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.

(c) The Henley and District War Memorial Hospital is now within the extended Borough boundary. It is a well-equipped Hospital with X-ray and operating theatre.

### Ambulance Facilities

- (a) There is a motor ambulance at the Smith Hospital for infectious diseases.
- (b) For non-infectious cases there is a motor ambulance in the town.

### Public Health Staff

Consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Borough Surveyor and has supervision of the Council's employees at the Sewage Pumping Station and disposal works and cleansing department.

### Bacteriological and Laboratory Work

This work is now carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Professor R. Knox.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1946

Diseases	No. of Cases notified		Admitted to Hospital	
Scarlet Fever ...	...	1	...	1
Diphtheria ...	...	Nil	...	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	...	Nil	...	—
Measles ...	...	1	...	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	2	...	—
Erysipelas ...	...	Nil	...	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	...	1	...	1
Pneumonia ...	...	Nil	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	Nil	...	—
Dysentery ...	...	Nil	...	—

**Scarlet Fever.** Only one case was notified and treated in Hospital, where she made a good recovery.

**Diphtheria.** No cases were notified during 1946. It will be seen below that a large number of the children in the Borough have been immunised against the disease.

**Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.** One case of this disease was notified, and recovered after treatment in Hospital.

**Whooping Cough.** Two notifications of this disease were received during the year.

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### New Cases

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	1	0	0
5—15	1	0	0	1
15—25	4	3	0	0
25—35	2	1	1	0
35—45	1	0	0	0
45—55	1	1	0	0
55—65	0	1	0	0
65—	0	0	0	0
Total	9	7	1	1

Five deaths occurred from this disease in 1946: three males and one female from pulmonary disease, and one male from the non-pulmonary type.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children who have been protected against Diphtheria by two immunising doses of Toxoid Antitoxin is shown in the following table :—

Estimated number of School Children	1180
Number immunised	993
Percentage	84
Estimated number of children under 5 yrs.	610
Number immunised	527
Percentage	86.4

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## THAME URBAN DISTRICT

### GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA, 1946

Area (Acres) ...	3,140
Estimate of Resident Population	3,426

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	Thame Urban District	England & Wales
Live Births	67	43	24		19.5	19.1
Legitimate	62	40	22			
Illegitimate	5	3	2			
Stillbirths	2	2	0	Rate per 1,000 population	0.58	0.53 per 1,000 civilian pop.
Deaths	43	18	25	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.5	11.5

The chief causes of death were :—

Intracranial Vascular Lesions, 9; Cancer, 8; Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other respiratory diseases, 5; Heart Disease, 10; Tuberculosis, 1.

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's List) :—

<i>Deaths</i>					
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	Nil	0.31
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	Nil			Nil	1.06
Total	...	Nil		Nil	1.37

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	44.7	43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...			48.3	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...			zero	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	8	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	Nil	4.4 per 1000 live births

It will be noted that Maternal Mortality figures compare very favourably with those of England and Wales as a whole.

# THAME URBAN DISTRICT

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Public Health Staff

Consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor and superintends the Waterworks, Sewage Disposal Works, Markets, etc.

### Fever Hospital Accommodation

Cases of notifiable Infectious Diseases are admitted by arrangement either to the Bullingdon and Wallingford Joint Isolation Hospital or to the Abingdon Isolation Hospital.

### Bacteriological Laboratory Work

This is now carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the direction of Professor R. Knox. Bacteriological examinations of the Public Water Supply are also made at this Laboratory.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1946

Diseases	No. of Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	... Nil	... —
Diphtheria ...	... 1	... 1
Measles ...	... 1	... —
Whooping Cough ...	... 12	... 2
Erysipelas ...	... 2	... —
Smallpox ...	... Nil	... —
Pneumonia ...	... Nil	... —
Typhoid ...	... Nil	... —
Paratyphoid ...	... Nil	... —
Malaria (contracted abroad)	3	... —
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	... 1

**Scarlet Fever.** There were no cases notified during the year.

**Measles.** Only one case was notified in 1946.

**Whooping Cough.** Twelve cases were notified during the year. Two were admitted to Hospital, and one complicated case died.

**Typhoid Fever.** No cases were reported during the year.

**Paratyphoid.** No cases were notified during the year.

**Pneumonia.** No notifications of this disease were received during the year.

**Diphtheria.** One case of this disease was notified during the year—an adult, who made a good recovery in Hospital,

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children who have been protected against Diphtheria by two immunising doses of Toxoid Antitoxin is shewn in the following table :—

Estimated number of School Children ...	530
Number immunised ...	445
Percentage ...	84
Estimated number of children under 5 yrs.	280
Number immunised ...	226
Percentage ...	81

Amongst the child population no case of Diphtheria has occurred in this district during the year, and it will be seen that the majority of children under 15 years have been protected against the disease.

Whooping Cough was more prevalent during 1946 than in the previous year.

### TUBERCULOSIS

Only one notification was received during the year; a male with the pulmonary type of disease. There was one death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during 1946.

# BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

## GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1946

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	90,643	
	Estimate of Resident Population			...		24,540	
	Total	M.	F.			Bullingdon Rural Dist.	England & Wales
Live Births	615	319	296	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population	25.0		19.1
Legitimate	557	289	268				
Illegitimate	58	30	28				
Stillbirths	15	8	7	Rate per 1,000 population	0.61	0.53 per 1,000 civ- ilian pop.	
Deaths	297	161	136	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population	12.1		11.5

The chief causes of death were :—  
 Heart Disease, 101; Cancer, 31; Intracranial Vascular Lesions, 38; Bronchitis, 15 ; Pneumonia, 10 ; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 6 ; Nephritis, 7 ; Influenza, 1.

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's List) :—

Deaths					
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	Nil	0.31
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	Nil			Nil	1.06
Total ...	...	Nil		Nil	1.37

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	24.4	43
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...				16.1	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...				103.4	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	31	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	2	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	Nil	4.4 per 1,000 live births	

It will be noted that both the Maternal Mortality and the Infant Mortality Rates compare favourably with those of England and Wales as a whole.

# BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Public Health Staff

Consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, together with two additional Sanitary Inspectors. If possible, a third additional Inspector should be engaged.

### Fever Hospital

Cases are admitted for treatment at the Bullingdon and Wallingford Joint Joint Isolation Hospital at Wallingford. There is a motor ambulance for infectious cases at this Hospital. The Council is one of the constituent authorities of the South Chilterns Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.

### Bacteriological Laboratory Work

(including Water Examination) is now carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Professor R. Knox.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1946

Diseases	No. of Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	27	17
Diphtheria ...	2	2
Pneumonia ...	15	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1
Erysipelas ...	8	0
Measles ...	49	0
Whooping Cough ...	68	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	1
Typhoid ...	0	0
Paratyphoid (non-civilian) ...	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	3
Malaria ...	8	0
Dysentery ...	36	3

**Scarlet Fever.** Out of 27 notified cases there were no deaths. The majority of the cases were of a mild type, and 17 patients were admitted to the Fever Hospital.

**Diphtheria.** There were only two cases notified in 1946, one adult and one child. Both made a good recovery in Hospital.

**Measles.** 49 patients were notified, but there were no deaths from the disease. It was found unnecessary to remove any cases to Hospital.

**Whooping Cough.** This disease was also prevalent; there were 68 cases, with two deaths. One complicated case was treated in Hospital.

**Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.** One case was notified during the year and recovered in Hospital.

**Acute Poliomyelitis.** There were no cases of this disease in the district during the year 1946.

**Dysentery.** 36 cases of dysentery were notified during the year. They were of a mild type, and there were no deaths. Three cases were treated in Hospital.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children in the Bullingdon District who have now been protected against Diphtheria by the injection of two immunising doses of Toxoid Antitoxin is shown in the following table:—

Estimated School Population	...	...	3,430
Number immunised ...	...	...	3,133
Percentage ...	...	...	91
Estimated Population under 5 years	...	1,900	
Number immunised ...	...	1,605	
Percentage ...	...	84	

## BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### New Cases

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	1	0
5—15	1	0	1	1
15—25	7	6	1	1
25—35	13	2	0	0
35—45	4	3	0	0
45—55	1	0	1	1
55—65	2	1	0	0
65—	0	0	0	0
Total	28	12	4	3

Six deaths were recorded during the year from pulmonary disease, and there was one death from the non-pulmonary type during the year.

## HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT

### GENERAL STATISTICS, 1946

Area (Acres) ... ... ... ...	52,297
Estimate of Resident Population ...	18,130

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.	Henley Rural District	England & Wales
Live Births	301	167	134	Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population mid-1946	16.6
Legitimate	273	149	124		
Illegitimate	28	18	10		
Stillbirths	2	0	2	Rate per 1,000 population	0.11
Deaths	198	104	94	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population	10.9
					11.5

The chief causes of death were ;— Heart Disease, 63; Cancer, 30; Intracranial Vascular Lesions, 19; Bronchitis, 11; Pneumonia, 7; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 10; other forms of Tuberculosis, 0; Influenza, 3.

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's List) :—

	<i>Deaths</i>				
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil	0.31	
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	Nil		Nil	1.06	
Total .. ... ..	Nil		Nil	1.37	

## HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT

	Henley Rural District	England & Wales
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—		
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	... ... ...	26.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	25.6	43
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	35.7	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	... ... ...	30
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	... ... ...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	... ...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	Nil	4.4 per 1,000 live births

It will be noted that the general Death Rate and both the Maternal Mortality and the Infant Mortality figures compare favourably with those of England and Wales as a whole.

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### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### **Public Health Staff**

Consists of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also Surveyor, together with two additional Sanitary Inspectors.

#### **Fever Hospital**

The "Smith" Isolation Hospital is now situated within the Borough of Henley. It also serves the R.D. of Hambleden (Bucks), and cases can be admitted from the Borough of Henley. The Council is one of the constituent authorities of the South Chilterns Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.

#### **Bacteriological Laboratory Work**

This is carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the direction of Professor R. Knox. Water examinations are also carried out at this Laboratory.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1946

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>No. of Cases Notified</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	... ... 7	... ... 6
Whooping Cough	... ... 36	... ... —
Diphtheria	... ... 2	... ... 2
Erysipelas	... ... 1	... ... —
Smallpox	... ... 0	... ... —
Measles	... ... 15	... ... 2
Pneumonia	... ... 11	... ... —
Puerperal Pyrexia	... ... 3	... ... 3
Typhoid	... ... 0	... ... —
Paratyphoid	... ... 1	... ... 1
Dysentery (Sonné)	... ... 5	... ... —
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	... ... 1	... ... 1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	... ... 0	... ... 0
Malaria	... ... 0	... ... —

**Scarlet Fever.** Amongst 7 notified cases of this disease there were no deaths. The majority of the cases were of a mild type, and 6 were treated in Hospital.

**Measles.** Only 15 cases were notified during the year, and there were no deaths from the disease. Two complicated cases were nursed in Hospital.

**Whooping Cough.** There were no deaths from this disease out of the 36 notified cases.

## HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT

**Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.** One case of this disease was notified, and died in Hospital.

**Typhoid Fever.** There were no cases in 1946.

**Dysentery.** Five cases of this disease were notified. They all made a complete recovery.

**Diphtheria.** Only 2 cases, one adult and one child, were notified and recovered in Hospital. It will be seen below that the majority of the children in the District have been immunised against the disease.

**Paratyphoid.** One case occurred at an Institution in the area and recovered in Hospital. There was no spread of the disease.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children who have been protected against Diphtheria by two immunising doses of Toxoid Antitoxin is shown in the following table :—

Estimated number of School Children ...	2,280
Number immunised ... ... ...	1,899
Percentage ... ... ... ...	83
Estimated number of children under 5 years	1,250
Number immunised ... ... ...	1,129
Percentage ... ... ... ...	90

### NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There is nothing of special interest to report with reference to these diseases. Measles and Whooping Cough are now notifiable, and complicated cases of these and other minor infectious diseases can be treated at the Smith Hospital at Henley under special circumstances. Measles has been less prevalent during the year. Only 15 cases were notified. Whooping Cough has been somewhat more prevalent than last year.

### TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0
1— 5	0	0	0	1
5—15	0	1	0	0
15—25	2	5	1	2
25—35	3	4	1	0
35—45	2	0	0	0
45—55	3	0	1	0
55—65	2	1	0	0
65—	0	2	0	0
Total	12	13	3	3

Ten deaths occurred from this disease during 1946 : 6 males and 4 females from the pulmonary type of the disease.

# PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

## GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA, 1946

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	79,911
Estimate of Resident Population	...			14,190

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.		Ploughley Rural Dist.	England & Wales
Live Births	317	151	166	Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population mid-1946	22.3	19.1
Legitimate	289	136	153			
Illegitimate	28	15	13			
Stillbirths	5	3	2	Rate per 1,000 population	0.35	0.53 per 1,000 civilian pop.
Deaths	161	81	80	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average popula- tion	11.3	11.5

The chief causes of death were :—  
 Heart Disease, 45; Intracranial Vascular Lesions, 25; Cancer, 20; Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other respiratory Diseases, 11; Nephritis, 5; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 3; other forms of Tuberculosis, 2; Influenza, 1.

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's List) :—

Deaths						
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil	0.31	
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	1			4.5	1.06	
Total	...	Nil		Nil	1.37	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	34.7	43
Legitimate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	27.6	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...				107	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	20	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	1	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	Nil	4.4 per 1,000 live births	

It will be noted that the general Death Rate and the Infant Mortality figures compare favourably with those of England and Wales as a whole.

# PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Public Health Staff

Consists of the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also the Surveyor, together with one additional Sanitary Inspector.

### Fever Hospital Accommodation

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health certain patients are, when necessary, admitted to the City of Oxford Infectious Diseases Hospital in The Slade. A motor Ambulance is stationed at the Hospital, and serves both the Rural District and the Urban District of Bicester. The Council is one of the Constituent Authorities of the South Chilterns Joint Smallpox Hospital Board.

### Bacteriological Laboratory Work

Is now carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the direction of Professor R. Knox. The Laboratory also undertakes the bacteriological examination of water supplies. Samples are also sent away for chemical analysis when necessary.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1946

Diseases	No. of Cases Notified				Admitted to Hospital		
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	10	...	...	...	6
Diphtheria ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	3
Measles ...	...	...	15	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	40	...	...	...	—
Pneumonia ...	...	...	4	...	...	...	—
Typhoid ...	...	...	0	...	...	...	—
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	0	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	0	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas ...	...	...	0	...	...	...	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery ...	...	...	0	...	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Malaria ...	...	...	0	...	...	...	—

**Scarlet Fever.** There were 10 notified cases of this disease, of whom 6 received Hospital treatment, the remainder being isolated at home. There were no deaths, and the majority of the cases were of a mild type. Two of the cases were in non-civilian patients.

**Diphtheria.** Six cases of this disease were notified during the year. They were five adults, four being non-civilians, and one child. They all made a good recovery in Hospital.

**Measles.** This disease has been less prevalent, but there were no deaths amongst the 15 cases notified. One case was admitted to Hospital.

**Pneumonia.** Four cases were notified during the year.

## PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

**Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.** One cases was notified in 1946—an adult who was treated in Hospital and recovered.

**Whooping Cough.** Forty cases were notified during the year. There was one death from the disease during the year 1946.

**Typhoid and Paratyphoid.** No cases were notified during the year.

**Dysentery.** No civilian cases of Sonné dysentery were notified during the year.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.** One case was notified and received treatment at the Oxford Eye Hospital.

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### New Cases

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0— 1	0	0	0	0
1— 5	1	0	0	1
5—15	1	0	1	0
15—25	4	0	3	2
25—35	3	0	1	0
35—45	0	0	1	1
45—55	1	0	1	0
55—65	0	0	0	0
65—	1	0	0	0
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Total	11	0	7	4
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During the year five deaths from Tuberculosis were recorded—one male and two female pulmonary cases; and one of each sex suffering from a non-pulmonary type of the disease.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children in the District who have been protected against Diphtheria is shown in the following table :—

Estimated School Population	...	...	2,160
Number immunised ...	...	...	1,792
Percentage ...	...	...	83
Estimated Population under 5 years	...	...	1,280
Number immunised ...	...	...	843
Percentage ...	...	...	66



